

# Shimshal Trust Newsletter

May 2015

Dear friends and supporters

Last year's scholarship round awarded grants to 15 students, which is a measure of the successful fund raising and generous donations the Trust has enjoyed. It is nearly twice as many scholarships as we aim to give each year.

## Teacher training

1. Manzoor Karim - Teacher training.

## Campbell Scholarship

2. Farhat Jabeen (confirmed for second year) (pictured.)



## Other scholarships

3. Bibi Hakeema.

4. Khalida Begum..

5. Nahida Yasmeen.

6. Sumaira Inayat.

7. Nasima Aman (vocational training)

8. Talha Rashid.

9. Asif Raza (pictured)



10. Naveed Karim.

11. Muhammed Saeed.

12. Safar Baig.

13. Hameed Ullah (vocational training)

14. Sheraz Uddin.

15. Khalida Aman

All these scholarships were subject to the applicant supplying proof of current enrolment in a course of study, which was received in every case and the money disbursed. Despite our attempts to reduce the cost of transferring money we still pay \$20 per transfer.

We are really pleased to be able to award two scholarships for vocational training, for a chef and a dressmaker respectively, and one for a teacher upgrading his qualifications.

Unfortunately the student teacher didn't indicate he wanted more than a basic scholarship so he is short of funds, although he has embarked on a course.



**Report back forms** were devised by Liz and Kim and we had our first report back the other day. This is real progress, as we are always keen to know how are students are doing, but rarely hear. The forms may enable us to feed more information back to donors, if successful.

**The young people whom we have been helping to get medical treatment are on the mend.**

Shenaz Begum has finally returned home to Shimshal after over two years in Karachi. Her operation for a polio-related disability and her living costs were paid for by the donations of Trust supporters and the Muslim community in Wellington. Shenaz can now walk upright and without the aid of a stick. We hope she will now continue with her education, as we have funds set aside to help her do that. The photo shows Shenaz with members of her

host family in Karachi.

Ariba (pictured right) had an operation for a cochlear implant, and her father, Mohammad Ali, delightedly reports that she is now able to say some words, after a trying time when she seemed to be making very slow progress, or none at all. The muslim community of Wellington made a



substantial contribution to her operation expenses which the Trust channeled to Pakistan.

We're thrilled with this good news. Ariba's father has asked for additional help with his daughter's educational expenses, but they are very high and beyond the resources of the Trust to provide, unfortunately.

It's nearly a year since our last newsletter. This tardiness is partly because the Trust members are moving away from Wellington and so are less able to run fund-raising events together, and partly because WOMAD turned us down this year for our stall, which we have got used to running, and really enjoy. So there has been less activity than usual to report. However, in a new development Pam's yoga class raised enough money for one whole scholarship, which is a first. Many thanks to Ali Tilley's Sadhana yoga class, in Miramar, Wellington.

We are grateful for the continued support of generous donors from all over New Zealand.

*Automatic payments and one off donations can be made to the Trust to help us keep the scholarships programme going. SHIMSHAL TRUST Account number: 38-9001-0596230-01 . Please include your name as a reference and email us so we can send a receipt.*